

# DAILY BULLETIN

JUNE 9, 2006

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## NEW JOBS ESSENTIAL TO ECONOMIC GROWTH, U.S. LABOR SECRETARY SAYS

400 million new jobs needed by 2015, international labor chief adds

By Kathryn McConnell  
Washington File Staff Writer

Washington – The creation of new jobs is linked closely to economic growth and the challenge to create jobs is faced by all nations, U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao told the annual International Labour Conference in Geneva June 8.

More than 400 million new jobs will be needed by 2015, mostly in developing countries, Juan Somavia, director-general of the International Labour Organization (ILO), said at the meeting.

The conference -- attracting 4,000 delegates representing governments, employers and workers from ILO member states -- began May 31 and runs through June 16. The United States is an ILO member.

Chao said more jobs could be created if countries reduce excessive taxes and regulations, and curb abusive litigation that hampers growth. Other conditions linked to job creation are transparency, accountability and rule of law, she said.

According to a new ILO report about the changing patterns in the world of work, forces driving change in employment include:

- Shifts in working conditions,
- Challenges of developing social security systems, and
- Adapting to new social and economic environments.

Somavia cited the service economy as a major employment growth area but also a “virtually global phenomena” because skill shortages in a country can exist side by side with rising unemployment.

Another focus of the meeting has been the problem of global child labor. In another new report, the ILO cites a first-time recent decrease in child labor across the globe and in a press release said it is “cautiously optimistic the trend will continue.”

Even though forced child labor decreased 11 percent between 2000 and 2004, more than 216 million children around the world still work when they should be going to school, the ILO said.

The ILO will recognize the annual World Day Against Child Labour June 12.

For more information, see the electronic journal Ending Abusive Child Labor:  
<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/ites/0505/ijee/ijee0505.htm>

The full text of Chao’s prepared remarks is available on the Department of Labor Web site:  
<http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/opa/opa20060990.htm>

Additional information about the conference and World Day Against Child Labour is available on the International Labor Organization Web site:  
<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/ites/0505/ijee/ijee0505.htm>

## TERRORIST LEADER ZARQAWI’S DEATH CALLED “SEVERE BLOW” TO AL-QAIDA

Bush, Iraqi leaders scheduled to speak via teleconference June 13

Washington -- President Bush announced June 8 that Jordanian-born terrorist leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi had been killed June 7 in a precision air strike by U.S. special operations forces in Iraq, in what he described as a “severe blow to al-Qaida and ... a significant victory in the War on Terror.”

Speaking to reporters at the White House, Bush described Zarqawi as “the operational commander of the terrorist movement in Iraq,” who led a campaign of car bombings, assassinations, and suicide attacks against Iraqi civilians and coalition forces in Iraq.

Zarqawi also personally beheaded American hostages and other civilians in Iraq, and was responsible for violence in Jordan such as the assassination of an American diplomat and the bombing of three Amman hotels.

According to news reports, U.S. forces were acting on tips and intelligence from sources close to Zarqawi when they struck the terrorist leader and several close associates at a rural house near the city of Baqubah using two 500-pound precision-guided bombs.

Bush said the persistence and determination of coalition and Iraqi forces had been rewarded after a year of near misses and false leads. “Now Zarqawi has met his end, and this violent man will never murder again,” Bush said.

Speaking to reporters in New York, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said, “It is a relief that such a heinous and dangerous man who has caused so much harm to the Iraqis is no longer around to continue his work.”

In a June 8 statement, U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Zalmay Khalilzad called Zarqawi the “Godfather” of sectarian violence in Iraq. He said Zarqawi “declared a civil war within Islam and a global war of civilizations. His organization has been responsible for the death of thousands of civilians in Iraq and abroad.”

Zarqawi’s stated aim was to foment sectarian strife between his fellow Sunni Muslims and Iraq’s Shi’a Muslim majority.

Khalilzad called on the leaders of Iraq's religious and ethnic communities to put an end to the civil strife and unite behind the leadership of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki.

Bush warned that terrorists and insurgents in Iraq can be expected to continue fighting and that sectarian violence will likely continue, but he said, "The ideology of terror has lost one of its most visible and aggressive leaders."

The president congratulated Prime Minister al-Maliki on the close collaboration between coalition and Iraqi forces in the hunt for Zarqawi, as well as the prime minister's completion of his cabinet appointments. Shortly after the announcement of Zarqawi's death, the Iraqi parliament overwhelmingly approved al-Maliki's nominees for the three remaining vacant cabinet posts. These included the portfolios of defense, the interior, and national security.

Bush said Iraq's ambassador to the United States would join him and the U.S. national security team at Camp David June 13 for a teleconference discussion with Prime Minister al-Maliki's government.

"Together we will discuss how to best deploy America's resources in Iraq, and achieve our shared goal of an Iraq that can govern itself, defend itself and sustain itself," Bush said.

The transcript of Bush's remarks is available on White House Web site:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2006/06/20060608.html>

The full text Khalilzad's statement is available on the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad's Web site:

[http://iraq.usembassy.gov/iraq/20060608\\_khalilzad\\_zarqawi.html](http://iraq.usembassy.gov/iraq/20060608_khalilzad_zarqawi.html)

For additional information, see Iraq Update:

[http://usinfo.state.gov/mena/middle\\_east\\_north\\_africa/iraq.html](http://usinfo.state.gov/mena/middle_east_north_africa/iraq.html)

## EUROPEAN REPORT ON RENDITIONS NOT SUPPORTED BY FACTS, SAYS U.S.

State Department spokesman, legal adviser say report is based on inaccuracies

Washington -- U.S. officials say that a Council of Europe report claiming that several European countries colluded with the United States in a network of international transfers and secret detentions is based on rumors and speculation and is not supported with facts.

The June 7 Council of Europe report is filled with "rumor, innuendo and inaccuracy," the State Department's senior legal adviser, John Bellinger, said during a June 7 interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation's Jonathan Beale.

"The tone of the report, citing a 'spider's web' of renditions, reads more like a supermarket journal than a serious report on human rights," Bellinger said.

The report claims that 14 European countries -- Britain, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Bosnia, Macedonia, Turkey, Spain, Cyprus, Ireland, Greece, Portugal, Romania and Poland -- have provided airbases and overflight rights to U.S. CIA planes that may have carried terrorism suspects. It also suggested that planes linked to the CIA "likely" dropped off detainees in Romania and Poland.

However, the report concedes that "hard evidence, at least according to the strict meaning of the word, is still not forthcoming."

"This would appear to be a rehash of the previous efforts by this group. We don't see any new solid facts in it. There seems to be a lot of allegations but no real facts behind it," said State Department spokesman Sean McCormack during a regular briefing June 7.

The report says that its authors "don't have all the facts here, but they have some suspicions, they have some impressions that have been left with them," McCormack said. "What suspicions or impressions? If they have some facts, certainly we would be happy to try to address those things."

He also pointed out that renditions -- intercountry transfers -- "are an internationally recognized legal practice."

"There seems to be this sort of tone in the report and in some discussions that there is something inherently

bad or illegal about intelligence activities. It couldn't be further from the truth," he said.

"Intelligence cooperation between the United States and Europe and between the United States and other countries around the world saves lives in the War on Terror," McCormack said.

Bellinger told the BBC that the practice of rendition has been used much less frequently over the past two years and added that the "vast majority of these flights are not engaged in detention and rendition activities."

"Rendition is an internationally recognized legal practice," he said, adding that without it, notorious terrorists such as the 1970s hijacking mastermind Carlos the Jackal would not have been apprehended.

One reason U.S. officials do not talk about intelligence activities is because doing so publicly might endanger those individuals engaged in it and cost innocent lives around the world, McCormack said.

Noting that the Council of Europe report talks about "thousands of CIA flights," he said there are many U.S. government flights every day that involve a variety of different purposes such as transporting U.S. government employees around the world. "There is nothing inherently sinister about any of these activities," he said.

Poland's prime minister, Kazimierz Marcinkiewicz, has called the accusations in the report "slandorous" and "not based on facts," and the Romanian government has called the report's conclusions "pure speculation."

The Council of Europe, which has no links to the European Union, oversees the European Convention on Human Rights.

For additional information, see Detainee Issues: <http://usinfo.state.gov/usinfo/Archive/2006/Jun/08-379921.html>

## U.S. OFFICIALS DETAIL U.S.-EU COOPERATION IN ADVANCE OF SUMMIT

State Department's Volker cites "depth" of trans-Atlantic relationship

Washington -- The State Department's Kurt Volker sees the upcoming United States-European Union (EU) summit in Vienna, Austria, as an opportunity to demonstrate that the U.S.-EU partnership is the "most robust ... that we have ever had."

"At the time of the summit, our goal is to ensure that we are projecting publicly the full breadth of things we are doing together," said Volker during a press roundtable in Brussels, Belgium, May 31. "There is an awful lot of depth in the U.S.-EU partnership that is going very, very well."

There is good trans-Atlantic cooperation, he said, on issues such as the promotion of democracy in the broader Middle East, Belarus, Burma, Ukraine, Zimbabwe and elsewhere; on container security and other counterterrorism and nonproliferation efforts; and on economic initiatives such as intellectual property rights protection.

Volker, the principal deputy assistant secretary of state for Europe, sketched out some of the topics likely to be discussed at the June 21 summit, which President Bush will attend.

These include the broader Middle East region; energy security, particularly in the wake of the New Year's energy cut-offs in Ukraine and the Caucasus; counterterrorism; bilateral and global trade, including the upcoming Group of Eight (G8) summit and the next round of World Trade Organization negotiations; the U.S.-EU airline passenger name record agreement; assistance to the Palestinian people; and Iran's nuclear ambitions, Volker said.

He was accompanied at the briefing by Scott Carpenter, deputy assistant secretary of state for the Near East. The two answered a range of questions.

Energy security, said Volker, will come up not only at the U.S.-EU summit but will be a "long-term issue." In early January, Russia briefly cut off natural-gas deliveries to the Ukraine in a dispute over a price hike, and later in the month gas flows to Georgia and Armenia were interrupted due to what Russia said were terrorist-caused explosions on the Mozdok-Tbilisi pipeline.

“Cutting off gas to Ukraine and Georgia was significant, but it also had an impact on supplies of gas to countries like Germany, Italy, Hungary, all EU members, and as a result, I think we have all taken a fresh look at what we need to do about the security of energy,” Volker told journalists in Brussels. He said the United States also has discussed the issue with NATO, and has been part of the G8 summit preparations.

Volker was asked about the recent decision by the European Court of Justice to annul a 2004 U.S.-EU passenger name record agreement under which European airlines provide U.S. authorities with information on passengers entering the United States.

“I think that this is something we can work with,” he said, adding that the problem appeared to be related to internal EU procedures and legal issues rather than the substance of the accord.

“That is something that is more for the EU to work out internally,” he said. “I’m confident that they will do that and I am confident that we will work together with them to continue to pursue both objectives, that is travel security and privacy.”

He and Carpenter also discussed assistance to the Palestinian people, stressing the commitment of the United States and the EU to provide the assistance as quickly as possible. “We were in discussions with the EU today and I think we had very much a meeting of minds,” Volker said. There was agreement that “there should not be direct wage support” and that “we want to see assistance to the Palestinian people who need it delivered as quickly as possible.”

“What we are trying to do is get the funding to those who are most in need,” said Carpenter, “while hoping at the same time that the [Hamas-led Palestinian] government can find a way to move its policy in line with the principles of the Quartet [for Middle East Peace – the EU, Russia, the United States and the United Nations].”

A transcript of the briefing is available on the Web site of the U.S. Mission to the EU:  
[http://useu.usmission.gov/Dossiers/TransAtlantic/May3106\\_Volker.asp](http://useu.usmission.gov/Dossiers/TransAtlantic/May3106_Volker.asp)

For more information on U.S.-European Union relations, see Western Europe:  
[http://usinfo.state.gov/eur/europe\\_eurasia/us\\_eu\\_relations.html](http://usinfo.state.gov/eur/europe_eurasia/us_eu_relations.html)

## PRESIDENT’S MALARIA PLAN EXPANDED AFTER RECENT SUCCESS

First lady says this is a “hopeful moment in the fight against malaria”

By Rachel J. King  
 Washington File Staff Writer

Washington -- A U.S. program to reduce malaria deaths by 50 percent in targeted African countries by 2010 will be expanded to include Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda and Senegal, first lady Laura Bush announced June 8 at a Washington event sponsored by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

The President’s Malaria Initiative (PMI), announced in 2005, is a \$1.2 billion, five-year collaboration of several government agencies, led by USAID in conjunction with the departments of State, Health and Human Services and others. The initiative attempts to take a comprehensive approach to preventing and treating malaria, including activities such as spraying insecticide in communities, using insecticide-treated bed nets and providing medication programs and treatment to pregnant women.

When announced by President Bush in June 2005, PMI targeted Angola, Tanzania and Uganda. As the first lady announced, four countries are being added for 2006 and the initiative will be expanded to another eight countries in 2007, ultimately aiding 15 nations.

“The partnership will also include education and evaluation programs to make sure that what we’re doing is effective and that it reaches the largest number of people,” the first lady said at the June 8 USAID event.

Although malaria has been eradicated in the United States, she said, “The challenge now is to make sure that this progress benefits people still at risk.”

Part of what making the fight against malaria so urgent, she said, is that the disease is “largely preventable.”

To eradicate malaria, the first lady said, more people must be “educated because life-saving nets, sprays and medicines work better when people know how to use them. Too few people know how malaria is transmitted. Every country has the obligation to educate its citizens.”

Malaria is especially devastating for children, pregnant women and people living with HIV/AIDS, she added.



According to a USAID fact sheet, approximately 1.2 million people die from the disease each year worldwide, but the greatest death toll is among children in Africa, where malaria kills a child every 30 seconds.

USAID predicts that an estimated 4 million people will benefit from PMI-supported activities by the end of September.

“For the first time, millions of people in malaria-devastated countries have hope,” Mrs. Bush said. “Throughout Africa, millions of mothers can now celebrate healthy children.”

The first lady added that U.S. aid must help African countries build anti-malaria programs that are sustainable. She attributed part of the malaria epidemic to the lack of doctors and nurses in Africa to meet the needs and said that as part of the USAID effort, for example, community health care workers are being trained in African cities and villages.

“With every new health care worker, a long-term, sustainable health care structure is being built,” she said, “one that can also cure diseases like avian flu, tuberculosis and malaria.”

PMI resources already are saving lives, the first lady said. In Angola, for example, where nearly 90 percent of the population is at risk of malaria, insecticide-spraying programs already provide coverage to more than 500,000 people.

The first lady also announced the new U.S. malaria coordinator, R. Timothy Ziemer, who will have direct authority over PMI and all USAID malaria programs and policy. Ziemer joined USAID after a 31-year career in the U.S. Navy where he achieved the rank of rear admiral. Previously, he served as the executive director of World Relief, a nonprofit group that works with local churches in the United States and around the world in the areas of disaster relief, refugee assistance, AIDS ministries and other services.

A 2005 USAID fact sheet on PMI:  
[http://www.usaid.gov/policy/malaria\\_122305.html](http://www.usaid.gov/policy/malaria_122305.html)

A press release on the June 8 announcement and fact sheet on the program’s expansion are available on the USAID Web site:  
<http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2006/pr060608.html>

**Pleases Note:** Most texts and transcript mentioned in the U.S. Mission Daily Bulletin are available via our homepage: <http://geneva.usmission.gov/>

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